

SECRET

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

17 September 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable William H. Sullivan
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
for East Asian and Pacific Affairs

SUBJECT : Alleged NLF Overture in Tunis

25X1 1. Attached is a note based on a 14 September cable from
25X1 [redacted] As you will see, it deals with an overture made
on 24 August to Mr. Frank Wisner, Jr., now an Economic Officer
at our [redacted] has asked that
this information be "made available to an appropriate level in the
State Department for coordination or any joint action deemed
advisable." I am therefore sending it to you and, at this moment,
to no one else.

2. Our initial reaction to this whole pitch is one of extreme
skepticism. As you will note the individuals involved are not
particularly savory and they are generally part of the pre-Diem era.
The followers of Le Van Hoach (who, as you know, is now senile)
and other politicians of that period keep hoping the clock will turn
back and their turn will come again. We doubt that this will ever
happen. As for the NLF angle, if it has any substance at all it
probably reflects nothing but one more attempt to see if the NLF/
PRG can generate private negotiations directly between its repre-
sentatives and the United States.

3. In order to ensure that no stone is left unturned, we will
run some further checks on the attached material. After you have
looked this material over, we can discuss what further actions -- if
any -- are indicated.

18/
George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

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John Chrono

O/DCI/SAVA:GACarver, Jr. /mee 17Sept71

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25X1

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